

## Iowa Department on Aging State Plan 2022–2025 Synopsis

### State Plan Development and Review Process

Pursuant to Iowa Administrative Rules, (17–4.2(231)), the Iowa Department on Aging “shall develop for commission consideration a two-, three-, or four-year state plan on aging in compliance with the Older Americans Act and Iowa Code chapter 231. The department shall develop the state plan on aging in accordance with the procedures and associated instructions, guidance, and direction specified by the Administration on Aging.

The Administrative Rules stipulate, that “the department shall comply with the following chronological review and comment process”:

- a. The department shall hold at least one public hearing on the proposed state plan or state plan amendment; and
- b. The department shall submit the state plan or state plan amendment to the commission for consideration. The commission shall approve or disapprove the state plan or state plan amendment after reviewing the plan and public comments; and
- c. The department shall submit a state plan or state plan amendment approved by the commission to the governor for approval and signature; and Ch 4, p.2 Aging [17] IAC 1/15/20
- d. The department shall submit a state plan or state plan amendment approved by the governor to the Administration on Aging for approval at least 45 days before the effective date of the state plan or state plan amendment.

If the state plan is not approved by the Commission, the department may, in its discretion, table or revise the proposed state plan. If the department revises the proposed state plan or state plan amendment, the department shall follow the comment and approval process outlined in subrule 4.2(4).

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## State Plan Highlights

### **GOALS**

The State Plan Goals were adopted from the most recent HHS-ACL Strategic Plan. The Goals are:

**Goal 1:** The Iowa Aging Network will support older Iowans, Iowans with disabilities age 18 and older, caregivers, and veterans as they make informed decisions and exercise self-determination and control about their independence, well-being, and health.

**Goal 2:** The Iowa Aging Network will enable older Iowans to remain in, or return to, their own residence and community of choice through the availability of and access to high-quality home and community services and supports, including supports for families and caregivers.

**Goal 3:** The Iowa Aging Network will protect and enhance the rights and prevent the abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older Iowans and Iowans with disabilities.

### **STRATEGIES**

The Iowa Department on Aging's planned activities address the impacts related to the COVID-19 pandemic as they are currently known. IDA is cognizant of the need to remain nimble to address potential disruptions resulting from the pandemic. Planned priorities and activities include:

1. Implementing a statewide care transitions program – Iowa Return to Community.
2. Defining, identifying and meeting the needs of Iowa's at-risk caregivers: those caring for individuals with dementia, caregivers of advanced aged, caregivers who are living in the home, providing daily care, highly stressed, and care recipients with complex needs.
3. Addressing Iowa's senior housing issues through interagency collaboration on supportive housing services and home modifications.
4. Tailoring services to our diverse target populations and focused on emerging trends and topics, including, but not limited to:
  - Informed decision-making and consumer-driven care planning and service implementation.
  - Opportunities for improving or maintaining health and well-being through programs and services available throughout Iowa.
  - Signs and impact of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older Iowans and approaches to address instances of abuse, neglect, and exploitation of older Iowans.
  - Long-term care residents', assisted living program tenants', and Medicaid managed care members' rights and responsibilities.

5. Implementing policies and processes to readily identify consumers who might benefit from additional Older Americans Act or other services, and developing referral mechanisms that direct those individuals to other appropriate service interventions.
6. Utilizing a data-driven performance management system to evaluate impact of service delivery, identify best practices or areas for improvement, and share outcomes and trends with citizens and stakeholders.

## **State Plan Public Comment**

- State Plan was posted on the IDA web site from March 8, 2021, to April 5, 2021, along with an Opportunity for Public Comment and instructions for submitting comments.
- A Public Hearing Notice (Zoom Call) and instructions for joining the meeting were posted to the IDA web site on March 8, 2021.
- Public hearing was held on March 15, 2021, via Zoom.
- IDA received no comments during the public hearing.
- IDA received no written comments.

State Plan was emailed to AAAs and stakeholders to garner additional input. The feedback received was considered and, where appropriate, included in the state plan